



# **How Program Evaluation Helped Us Plan EPHT in Oregon**

**and**

# **How We Intend to Use it in the Implementation Phase**

**John A. Dougherty, PhD  
Multnomah County Health Dept.**

**Lori Barck, PhD, JD  
Oregon Public Health Division**



# EPHT Program Evaluation Planning Phase

- What were the evaluation questions?
- What were the methods?
- How did it influence the program (Lessons Learned)?



# EPHT Program Evaluation Planning Phase

- Identifying data sources
- Partnerships – Planning Consortium
- Capacity building - mini-grants



# Identifying Data Sources

- What was the impact of identifying data sources on knowledge about and participation in EPHT?
- Methods:
  - Quantitative & qualitative survey of data owners



# Data Sources – Lessons Learned

- Satisfaction with database identification process
- Substantial interest in EPHT
- Environmental database owners wanted more information
- Did not feel invited to participate



# Partnerships

- **How healthy are our partnerships?**
  - **Planning Consortium and Advisory Committee**
- **Methods:**
  - **Participatory approach**
  - **Independent evaluation**
  - **Qualitative and quantitative surveys**



# Partnerships – Lessons Learned

- **Partnership Evaluation:**
  - AC and PC had info they needed
  - Benefited from participation and their skills were utilized
  - Expectations and objectives were met
- **Effective Partnership Building:**
  - Solicit feedback (including surveys)
  - Invite to participate
  - Acknowledge status and achievements





# Local Capacity Building

- How well did the mini-grants build local capacity important for EPHT?
- Methods:
  - Quantitative & qualitative survey of mini-grantees
  - Training visits (qualitative observations)
  - 1-Year follow-up phone interviews with mini-grantees



# Mini-Grant Lessons Learned

- **Basic automation tools and skills:**
  - Databases
  - GIS software and training
- **Local partnerships:**
  - New and diverse relationships
  - Unexpected positive outcomes
- **Sustainability issues:**
  - Utility of tracking to local HDs and CBOs
  - Fee-based & expanded vision of EH



# Implementation Project Questions

- Who will use the network in Oregon and how will they use it?
- What capacities are needed to use EPHT products?
- What are the barriers to using the network and how can they be overcome?
- How will EPHT assist local HDs and others to make tracking data useful to them?
- How will the public health benefit be demonstrated?
- What is the impact of the availability of data on communities, disparities, and policy?
- What public health actions have been taken?
- Who will support EPHT in Oregon after CDC funding goes away, and why?



# Potential Outcome Measures

- Number of requests for data & uses of data
- Number and type of network partners & users
- Requests for assistance & information
- Communications / articles based on network data
- Community / public health actions
- Participation & collaboration among stakeholders
- Ability of LHDs to serve constituent EH needs
- Capacity needs (staff skills, funding, software, etc.)
- Increased local efforts to track and share data
- Support, funding, & advocacy for EPHT
- Contributions to national data & network



# Feedback on this presentation is welcomed!

John A. Dougherty, PhD  
Program Design and Evaluation Services  
Multnomah County Health Dept.  
426 SW Stark St, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
503-988-3663 Ext. 22290#  
john.x.dougherty@co.multnomah.or.us (or)  
john.a.dougherty@state.or.us

Lori Barck, PhD, JD  
EPHT Program Manager  
Environmental & Occupational  
Epidemiology  
Oregon Public Health Division  
800 NE Oregon St, Suite 827  
Portland, Oregon 97232  
503-872-6802  
lorena.barck@state.or.us



